



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application No. 10/658,407

Applicant: ISHIKAWA et al.

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Examiner: O. Gabor

Docket No.: 402773

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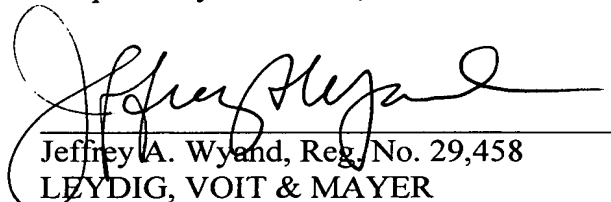
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COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Sir:

Page 2 of the attachment to the Notice of Allowance, in paragraph 3, includes an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance. Applicants respectfully point out that that paragraph is not commensurate with the language of many of the allowed claims, for example, claims 1, 3-9, 12, and 14. Those claims are not method claims and their patentability is not founded upon process steps as may appear in the examiner's statement.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAW:ves